

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (currently amended): A method for making a tubular fabric comprising the steps of:

forming a support yarn and a fusible yarn into a tubular fabric wherein the fabric does not include an elastomeric yarn; and

arranging the fusible yarn within the tubular fabric so that when said fusible yarn melts over the tubular fabric, the fabric forms a barrier to penetration by a bra wire upon cooling.

Claim 2 (original): A method as claimed in Claim 1 wherein the step of forming the yarns into a tubular fabric is performed by weaving the yarns.

Claim 3 (original): A method as claimed in Claim 1 wherein the tubular fabric is selected from the group consisting of open fabric and flat fabric.

Claim 4 (original): A method as claimed in Claim 1 wherein the fusible yarn is composed of multifilaments.

Claim 5 (original): A method as claimed in Claim 1 wherein the fusible yarn and support yarn are made from a polyamide.

Claim 6 (original): A method as claimed in Claim 1 wherein the fusible yarn has a melting point of 75 to 90°C.

Claim 7 (original): A method as claimed in Claim 1 wherein the fusible yarn has a melting point of approximately 85°C.

Claim 8 (canceled)

Claim 9 (original): A method as claimed in Claim 5 wherein the polyamide yarn is textured.

Claim 10 (original): A method as claimed in Claim 9 wherein the polyamide yarn is composed of a plurality of filaments.

Claim 11 (currently amended): A method as claimed in Claim 1 further comprising the steps of:

treating the tubular fabric by heating the fabric whereby the fusible yarn melts and spreads over the interior surface of the tubular fabric; and

cooling the tubular fabric to allow the melted fusible yarn to adhere to the other yarns of the fabric thereby producing ~~produce~~ a barrier to penetration by a bra wire.

Claim 12 (original): A method as claimed in Claim 11 wherein the step of treating the tubular fabric by heating is performed by a polyamide fabric dyeing process.

Claim 13 (original): A method as claimed in Claim 11 wherein the temperature is equal to or greater than 100°C.

Claim 14 (original): A method as claimed in Claim 1 further comprising the step of treating the tubular fabric so that the yarn strands substantially across the width of the fabric are forced closer together wherein the tubular fabric is stretchable along the length of the tubular fabric.

Claim 15 (original): A method as claimed in Claim 14 wherein the step of treating the tubular fabric includes the application of heat and pressure to the fabric.

Claim 16 (original): A method as claimed in Claim 14 wherein the processing temperature is 80 to 200°C.

Claim 17 (original): A method as claimed in Claim 11 further comprising the step of locating an underwire within a length of the tubular fabric.

Claim 18 (original): A method as claimed in Claim 17 further comprising the step of incorporating the tubular fabric into a garment.

Claim 19 (original): A method as claimed in Claim 18 wherein the garment is selected from the group consisting of a bra, a basque and a swimming costume.

Claim 20 (canceled)

Claim 21 (currently amended): A tubular fabric comprising a support yarn and a fusible yarn, the fusible yarn being is so constructed and arranged so that when said fusible yarn melts over the tubular fabric to form it forms a barrier to penetration by a bra wire ~~within the tubular fabric~~ upon cooling, and wherein the tubular fabric does not include an elastomeric yarn.

Claim 22 (original): A tubular fabric as claimed in Claim 21 wherein the fusible yarn is melted.

Claim 23 (currently amended): A garment comprising:

a wire; and

a tubular fabric comprising a support yarn and a fusible yarn, the fusible yarn is ~~so~~ being constructed and arranged so that when said fusible yarn melts and spreads over the tubular fabric to form it forms a barrier to penetration by the wire ~~that is located within the tubular fabric~~ upon cooling, and wherein the tubular fabric does not include an elastomeric yarn.

Claim 24 (original): The garment as claimed in Claim 23, wherein the garment is a bra.

Claim 25 (original): The garment as claimed in Claim 23, wherein the garment is a basque.

Claim 26 (original): The garment as claimed in Claim 23, wherein the garment is a swimming costume.